

America's Governors may have moved it along a little bit. We are still not in accord with the President, and we hope that might be possible. I must say the American people will only accept a good agreement, not a game of arithmetic, but policy changes that will mean a great deal to the American people, bring interest rates down a couple of percent so that when you buy a home or car or borrow money for one of your children going to college or whatever, you will pay 2 percent less interest. The American people can understand that. That is what the first session was all about, and that is what the second session is going to be all about.

In the meantime, today we passed historic farm legislation. We passed a very significant DOD authorization report. We passed a START II Treaty which the President requested in his State of the Union Message. We had all the work done before and we were just waiting for a vote.

We also passed the telecommunications bill, probably the biggest jobs bill in this decade. We have done all that plus public housing reform, which was very significant legislation.

So I do not want the RECORD to only reflect the statements I heard earlier from my friend from Ohio, Senator GLENN, and the Senator from Michigan, Senator LEVIN, that it has been sort of a waste of time. Because there will be no votes does not mean that there will not be hearings and progress, and I am certain my colleagues on both sides of the aisle will either be here working or be at home working. I think that from time to time it is good to go home and find out what the people are thinking.

It is not 3 weeks. It is about 2 weeks—10 days—10 days. So we will be back. In the interim, if there is anything that should be done, obviously we are going to be in here on this Friday, and next week there are pro forma sessions, and then we are in again for a couple hours each day and we can take care of any business that might come before the Senate.

So I want to thank all of my colleagues for their help and their cooperation so far this year. It is going to be a long year. There will be a lot of work to do, but I believe we can accomplish what we set out to do in the first place—welfare reform, balance the budget, regulatory reform, tax relief for families with children, all those things that are so necessary if we are going to get the economy moving again and if we are going to have that hope and optimism that the American people are looking for. So I thank the Presiding Officer.

ORDER FOR RECESS

Mr. DOLE. If there is no further business to come before the Senate, I move we stand in recess under the previous order following the remarks of Senator DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the motion. The motion was agreed to.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand in recess for 2 minutes.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:31 p.m., recessed until 6:34 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. ASHCROFT).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Missouri, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, in his capacity as a Senator from the State of Missouri, asks unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECESS UNTIL FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1996, AT 11 A.M.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate now stands in recess until 11 a.m. on Friday, February 9.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 6:43 p.m., recessed until Friday, February 9, 1996, at 11 a.m.